Town of Fenwick Island Minutes of the Charter & Ordinance Committee Meeting February 2, 2010



#### Call to Order at 9:30 a.m.

**Present:** Committee Members Bill Weistling, Gene Langan, Diane Tingle, Mike Quinn, Buzz Henifin, Winnie Lewis, Win Abbott and Pat Schuchman.

**Absent:** Audrey Serio, Vicki Carmean

Public Attendance: Donna Blanck

### Minutes:

• Diane Tingle made a motion to approve the minutes of January 5, 2010 seconded by Winnie Lewis. The Minutes were unanimously approved.

# Discussion of Ordinances Under Review:

- Bill Weistling stated that Chapter 77 (Disorderly Conduct) and Chapter 107 (Noise) have been reviewed by Tempe Steen and the drafts have been amended per her recommendations.
- Bill stated that he had received opinions from both Tempe and Chief Boyden regarding "Peace Officer" of which the definition had been discussed at the January meeting.
- Both Tempe and the Chief stated that "peace officer" is a police officer in just about most cases. In view of this, the Chief recommends that we change "peace officer" to "police officer" since any problems will be dealt with by the Police Department. All agreed.
- The term "upon conviction" was also reviewed by Tempe. She recommends keeping it as it is. She explained that this refers to violation of Town ordinances that are not a criminal offense or misdemeanor.
- The other changes were to include notification of property owners and/or realtors of rental properties whose tenants are in violation of Town code "within five business days".
- Both amendments to Chapter 77 and 107 will be presented for a First Reading at the February 2010 Town Council meeting.

## Issues for Discussion and Possible Action:

- <u>Chapter 112 (Parking):</u> Mike Quinn brought up the concern of unregistered vehicles parked on private property (both residential and commercial). He would like to see added to §112-2A prohibition on vehicles not tagged.
- There was discussion that §112-2 includes only prohibitions on Town streets, not private property. We will check with Chief and Tempe as to restricting such vehicles on private property.
- Mike Quinn added that §112-2B only refers to parallel parking throughout Town and nothing regarding diagonal parking that is required at beach-ends.
- Buzz Henifin answered that the signs on the beach-ends state the restrictions as defined in §112-3.
- Bill stated that §112-5 needs to be reviewed particularly with reference to hang tags, parking decals and asked Win Abbott his thoughts on this section.
- Win stated that hang tags and parking permits have already been ordered for this coming season, however, he believes this section would be better if the ordinance stated in simplified terms the general purpose of the parking permit requirements.
- §112-6 (Parking for handicapped person) was previously added to the code as a State requirement. Bill did mention that in §112-6A there is a reference to allow a handicapped person an additional 90 minutes than the legal parking period in areas where permit parking is required. All agreed this seemed unnecessary and agreed to remove this sentence.
- \$112-8 (violations and penalties) was discussed. It was agreed to keep the parking fines at \$50 and \$75.

- <u>Chapter 116 (Peace and Good Order)</u>: Bill commented that §116-2 needs to be modified to add "unless approved by Town Council" since the Town Council is considering allowing beach concessions.
- §116-3 it was agreed to remove "or occupy as a sleeping quarter or under the guise of pretending to sleep" from this section.
- \$116-5 (Tailgating) will add a time limit which will prohibit such activity between 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.
- §116-6 (Occupancy of vehicles during certain hours) will change restricted hours to "between the hours of 12:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.".
- §116-7 (violations and penalties) will remove reference to Alderman and leave the fine \$50.
- <u>Chapter 120 (Property Maintenance):</u> §120-1B(2) will be removed entirely. §120-3B – Pat Schuchman suggested that the fine of \$250 to a property owner who is in violation of the ordinance requiring that grass and weeds not exceed 10 inches be increased. She explained that although it is a rare occurrence, twice this past summer the Public Works Department was required to mow the grass and clear those yards of debris. The amount of \$250 was not enough to cover the cost of the Public Works crew performing this work.
- Win added that a decision to have Public Works perform such an activity only happens when all efforts to have a property owner take care of their yards have been exhausted.
- It was agreed to increase this fee to \$500.
- <u>Chapter 127 (Sanitation)</u>: Gene Langan commented that this Chapter needs to have "recycling and yard debris" included wherever there is reference to "trash and garbage".
- This Chapter will be further discussed at the March C&O Meeting.

# **Comprehensive Plan:**

• Winnie Lewis reported that the Planning Committee will meet next Tuesday and re-organization of the committee will take place.

# Next Meeting:

- Next meeting March 2, 2010 at 9:30 a.m.
- Discussions planned will be:
- Continued discussion of Chapter 127 (Sanitation)
  - Codebook Updates (Chapter 131 160)

## Old Business:

• Bill reported that Honeywell Industries has introduced a new wind turbine. It is a 6' diameter plastic wheel type of turbine that works at a lower wind speed and produces a 20% energy reduction. There is a website that provides information on available grants in different areas of the country.

### Adjourn:

• Diane Tingle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Gene Langan. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.